Yes, Reverend Perry, I have prayed about the U.F.M.C.C TV ministry and want to commit myself to its completion and airing. It is a top priority for me. Please send me the packet of information on more ways I can help.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

_____

PHONE #: _____

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UNIVERSAL FELLOWSHIP OF METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCHES

5300 Santa Monica Boulevard, Suite 304, Los Angeles, California 90029 (213) 464-5100

March 12, 1982

Dear Friend:

I am writing you today concerning the production of our TV special.

This letter is sent to you as a Pastor, Interim Pastor or Worship Coordinator, to bring you up to date on what is happening with the TV show, and to ask for your support for this project, if it is a priority with you.

As of February 1st, we have raised $18,700. $2,700 has been used to raise money for the project (advertising, PR, postage, phone, letters, etc.) $16,000 has been applied to the contract with Forward Focus Productions, the company we have hired to complete the taped show for us.

This last August, we taped the Sunday morning worship service at General Conference in Houston, Texas as most of you know. Also, during the weekend, testimonies were taped of different MCC members answering the questions, "Why I became a part of MCC" and "Why I know God cares for me." In all, we have about 35 minutes out of the seven hours of tape to use in the special. The rest of the special will be shot here in Los Angeles, where we will be taping the music, women in ministries, the history of U.F.M.C.C., and the opening and closing shots.

Ever since General Conference I have been concerned with seeing us take care of our cash flow problem in the Fellowship and finishing the TV special.

The TV ministry has been a dream of mine since the founding of MCC. At the first worship service of our Church in 1968, I set six goals for our Church. One of those was the TV ministry. In 1979 the General Conference went on record supporting a media ministry for the Fellowship. At our last Conference the delegates passed a resolution calling for a Fellowship Media Committee, appointed by the Board of Elders, to investigate and develop an in-depth and comprehensive on-going media program. That has been done.

The Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches is, compared to most other Christian denominations, young and relatively unknown. Even among the gay and lesbian community it serves, it is not always a household word.

Our houg-long television program will do much to dispel ignorance about the U.F.M.C.C. and perhaps bring Christianity back into the lives of gay people who have fallen away from organized religions due to the prevailing anti-homosexual teachings. If we intend to reach beyond the already knowledgeable, if we desire to touch the hearts, intellects and lives of the often skeptical and sometimes bitter gay and lesbian former Christians, it would seem reasonable to aim this television special at a general audience. There is little point preaching to the already converted.

In order to attract and keep the attention of such an audience, the program will be informative, interesting and entertaining. A positive view of U.F.M.C.C. will, therefore, seem to be the most appropriate method of communicating the story and message of the Church. It is an unconventional story of an unconventional Church for unconventional people and with an unconventional, but beautiful message...that God loves lesbians and gay men and that it is not impossible nor incompatible to be both gay and Christian.

The theme of the television special (though not necessarily the title) will be "We are the children of God, too," something that most homosexuals forget and straight people don't normally believe.

Now, having said that, I come to you for your help.

We have to raise $22,000 immediately to finish the next phase of the special and that is the last of the taping in Los Angeles. I realize that everyone who receives this letter does not see the TV ministry as a priority the way I do. I can appreciate that, and can assure you I understand your feeling. But to you clergy and worship coordinators who do see this as a priority, I really need your help now.

I want you to do something now.

Please go to God in prayer and ask God to guide us as we finish taping the special. Pray for the finances to complete the program. Third, commit yourself to helping this project with all your resources and as much as you have the power, that of your congregation, friends and business people who you contract with. Last, send the enclosed card back to me immediately, and I will forward you a packet of information on more ways you can help.

In Christ,

Rev. Troy D. Perry

Reverend Troy D. Perry

TDP/fkz

P.S. Please do not send me back the enclosed card unless you really are committed 100% to seeing our TV program aired. If this project is not a priority with you, I promise you will not be a) badmouthed; b) blacklisted; c) excommunicated; d) shot; e) all of the above. So, be honest. You will not hurt my feelings.